

Library



Longridge Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Sanitary Inspector

Year ended 31st December, 1954

L O N G R I D G E U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

-----ooOoo-----

1954/55

Chairman of the Council :-

Councillor J. Smith, J.P.

HEALTH HIGHWAYS AND PARKS COMMITTEE

Chairman :-

Councillor E.C. Oakes

Vice-Chairman :-

Councillor J.G. Lund

Members :-

Councillors R. Holden, J. Melling, W.H. Riding and F. Singleton

Medical Officer of Health

J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., also Divisional Medical Officer to the Health Division No. 4 Lancashire County Council and Medical Officer of Health to the Chorley Borough Council, Adlington, Leyland and Withnell Urban District Councils and Preston Rural District Council.

Sanitary Inspector

V.N. Page, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
also Cleansing Superintendent.

Health Department,
Berry Lane,
Longridge.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for
the Year ended 31st December, 1954.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Council
of the Urban District of Longridge.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District of Longridge for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

The number of live births registered in the District during 1954, is 85, or 5 more than in the previous year, giving a Birth Rate of 19.1 as compared with 15.2 for England and Wales.

The number of deaths is 10 more than in the previous year and the Death Rate is 13.2 as compared with 11.3 for the Country as a whole. The increase is mainly accounted for by a rise in the number of deaths due to malignant disease from 4 to 9 and heart disease from 19 to 23.

The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was one as compared with 3 in the year 1953.

It is pleasing to report that there were again no deaths attributable to child-birth and for the second successive year there were no deaths from tuberculosis.

The number of notifications of acute infectious diseases was 46 as compared with 54 in 1953. No cases of poliomyelitis or diphtheria were reported.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government (in Circular 30/54 of 22nd March, 1954), asked Councils to resume the full exercise of their powers in regard to slum clearance and on the 30th August, 1954, the Housing, Repairs and Rents Act came into operation. Section I of this Act requires Councils to submit to the Minister within twelve months their proposals for dealing with unfit houses during the next five years. Several houses in the District will fall to be dealt with as totally unfit and there should be active implementation of schemes to salvage houses which can be brought up to satisfactory standards.

Other matters regarding the Sanitary Circumstances of the District are dealt with in the Report and require no special comments from me.

In conclusion I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement. My thanks are also due to the Officers of the Council for their ready co-operation at all times.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER.

Physical Features of the Area.

The physical and geological features of the area, which have been described in previous reports, remain substantially the same.

Statistics of the Area.

Area in Acres	3,285
Population (Census 1931)	4,158
Population (Census 1951)	4,315
Registrar General's estimate of Home Population (Mid 1954)	4,460
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)	1,067
Number of dwellings occupied and vacant (Census 1951)	1,336
Number of dwellings occupied (Census 1951)	1,306
Number of dwellings occupied and vacant (Ratebook 1954)	1,435
Number of dwellings occupied (Ratebook 1954)	1,413
Rateable Value 1954/55	£27,451
Sum represented by a penny rate 1954/55	£109

Social Conditions and Amenities of the District.

There have been no changes worthy of comment in the social conditions and amenities of the area.

Vital Statistics.

Births

<u>Live Births -</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	37	44	81
Illegitimate	3	1	4
Totals	40	45	85

Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 19.1

Still Births -

Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	3	3	6

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... 66

Table of Vital Statistics

Live Births, Deaths and Stillbirths

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths	
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 Total Births
Year 1954	85	19.1	59	13.2	6	66
" 1953	80	18.0	49	11.0	2	24
" 1952	94	21.4	39	8.9	1	11
" 1951	86	20.0	63	14.6	1	11
" 1950	76	17.7	47	10.9	2	26
" 1949	67	16.3	57	13.9	3	43
Average 5 years 1949 - 1953	80.6	18.6	51	11.8	1.8	23

The birth and death rates shown in the previous and subsequent tables are known as "crude" rates. The Registrar General issues a comparability factor based on age and distribution of population which should be used when comparing the vital statistics of one area with another. The adjusted rates for this area are therefore as follows, allowing for a birth comparability factor of 1.10 and 1.05 for deaths.

Adjusted Birth Rate 21.0 per 1,000/pop'n

Adjusted Death Rate 13.9 " " "

Table of Vital Statistics
Maternal and Infant Mortality

	Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
			Total under 1 year		Neo-Natal Under 4 weeks	
	No. of deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No. of deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live births	No. of deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live births
Year 1954	Nil	Nil	1	12	1	12
" 1953	Nil	Nil	3	38	1	13
" 1952	Nil	Nil	5	53	2	21
" 1951	Nil	Nil	1	12	1	12
" 1950	Nil	Nil	1	13	1	13
" 1949	Nil	Nil	3	45	⌘	⌘
Average 5 years 1949 - 1953	Nil	Nil	2.6	32.2	⌘	⌘

The neo-natal figures are available only from 1950.

Comparative Table of Vital Statistics for
Longridge, Lancashire and England and Wales.

	Per 1,000 of population		Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Per 1,000 Total live & Still Births	Per 1,000 Live Births
Longridge Average 5 years 1949 - 1953 ...	18.6	11.8	Nil	32.2
1954	19.1	13.2	Nil	12
Lancashire 1954	14.25	12.64	0.90	29
England and Wales 1954	15.2	11.3	0.69	25.5

Analysis of Causes of Death

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis (all forms)	-	-	-
Malignant Diseases	4	5	9
Leukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	6	1	7
Heart Diseases	13	10	23
Other Circulatory Disease	1	1	2
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhea	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	1	1
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	6	4	10
	<u>33</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>59</u>

Diseases of the heart were again the dominant cause of death in both males and females.

Deaths from malignant diseases were five more than the previous year.

Bronchitis caused one death.

Vascular lesions of the nervous system produced seven deaths. These deaths include all forms of "strokes".

Infantile Mortality.

There was one death of infants under 1 year as compared with 3 in the previous year. This gives an infantile mortality rate of 12 per 1,000 live births as compared with 38 the previous year. The infantile mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole is 25.5.

The cause of death of the one infant is given below.

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause of death</u>
Female	Two days	Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida (Meningomyelocele Congenital)

Tuberculosis.

The table below gives age and sex distribution of the new cases.

Age Periods. Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non		Respiratory		Non	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0								
1								
2								
5			1					
10	1							
15								
20								
25								
35								
45								
55								
65								
75 upwards								
Totals	1		1					

There were no deaths from respiratory tuberculosis in 1954 or from non-respiratory causes.

The death rates per 1,000 of population from this disease are, respiratory 0.00 and non-respiratory 0.00. The comparative figures for England and Wales are 0.16 and 0.02.

There were two primary notifications (1 respiratory and 1 non-respiratory) during the year 1954.

There was a total of three persons removed from the register during the year for the following reasons.

1 - diagnosis not confirmed

2 - recovered

3

The number of people on the Register at the end of the year under review is shown below.

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Male	Female	Male	Female
7	6	4	8
Totals 13		12	

Comparative Table of Tuberculosis Death Rates for
Longridge, Lancashire, England & Wales.

	Per 1,000 of Estimates Population		
	Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis	Death Rate from Non- Respiratory Tuberculosis	Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis
Longridge Average 5 years 1949 - 1953	0.17	0.00	0.17
1953	0.00	0.00	0.00
1954	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lancashire 1954	0.14	0.02	0.16
England and Wales 1954	0.16	0.02	0.18

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA
Laboratory Services.

The Laboratory of Preston Royal Infirmary was used to examine specimens for the diagnosis of cases of infectious diseases, and for pathological specimens for ordinary diseases, for the bacteriological examination of milks, for tests for Tubercle Bacillus in milks, and for tests for ice cream.

Hospital Accommodation.

Infectious Diseases are normally admitted to the Joint Hospital at Heath Charnock and to Deepdale Isolation Hospital. The number of infectious cases admitted to hospitals in 1954 was 6.

General Disease. Three hospitals were available for patients in this district :-

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Preston Royal Infirmary |) Administered by the
Preston and Chorley
Hospital Management
Committee. |
| 2. Sharoe Green Municipal Hospital, Preston | |
| 3. St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Street, Preston
(for private patients) | |

Venereal Diseases. Clinics are held at the Preston Royal Infirmary. Advice and treatment are free and confidential.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

It has not been necessary to recommend the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention as envisaged by Section 47 of the above Act.

It was not necessary to exercise the provisions of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951,

This Act gives local authorities further powers to enable them to deal expeditiously with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. Where the Medical Officer of Health and another registered medical practitioner certify that, in the case of a person to whom section 47 (1) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, applies, it is necessary in their opinion that he should be removed without delay from the premises in which he is residing, an application for a removal order may be made immediately to the appropriate magistrates. Any order may under these provisions is valid for a period not exceeding three weeks.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

There are a variety of Health Services of the Lancashire County Council operated in the area and which are under the control of the No. 4 Divisional Health Committee. 44, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Preston, telephone No. Preston 77263.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

There are no Ambulance Stations in the area of the Longridge Urban District but the district is covered from other Stations in adjacent districts and generally the Broughton Ambulance Station is used.

HOME NURSING AND MIDWIFERY SERVICE

A team of three nurses serve the Longridge and district area. The duties of these nurses include care of patients in their own homes, and they arrange for the loan of nursing equipment in suitable cases. Expectant mothers who are confined at home are also attended by them.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Home Helps are employed in Longridge and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity, and Tuberculosis cases. Night helps are also employed where needed.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE

There is a weekly Child Welfare session held at the School Clinic, 26, Kestor Lane, Longridge, every Tuesday afternoon. A doctor and Health Visitor attend and give advice on infant care and management. Baby foods are also sold at the centre.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at the School Clinic, 26, Kestor Lane, Longridge. Clinic sessions are held for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provisions for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

CONVALESCENT CARE

In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

WELFARE SERVICE

Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer anyone to adequately care for them. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The table below gives an analysis of notified cases.

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Dysentery
Under 1	-	1	2	-	-
1 - 2	1	5	7	-	1
3 - 4	1	2	6	-	-
5 - 9		1	13	--	-
10 - 14	1	-	1	1	-
15 - 24		-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	1
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	-	-	-	1	-
65 & over	-	-	-	1	-
Total cases all ages	3	9	29	3	2
Total Deaths	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total cases removed to Hospital	3	1	-	1	1

The total notifications of 46 cases of infectious disease compares with 54 in 1952.

It will be seen from the table above that more than half the notifications were in respect of whooping cough. There were 17 more cases of this disease notified than in the previous year.

No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year. There was one notification of this disease in the previous year.

Diphtheria was again absent from the district the last notified case being in 1944.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.Milk.

The milk retailed in Longridge is now all Tuberculin Tested. Some of the milk is Farm Bottled, that is to say bottled on the farm of production and in other cases milk which is tuberculin tested is purchased from Ashley Dairy or other designated farms and bottled on the retailers premises.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries control milk production at the farms, and any milk found to fail the methylene blue test or the bacteriological test is reported to the County Milk Production Officer for his information and action, and at the same time the milk producer is informed of the unsatisfactory result.

There was no pastuerised or sterilised milk retailed in the district.

Report on Milk Samples.

The results of the samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination and biological tests are shown below.

Test carried out	No. of samples taken	No. passed	No. failed
Methylene Blue Reductase	16	14	2
Bacillus Coli	16	12	4
Tubercle Bacillus	16	16	-

The County Sampling Officer for the district took 26 samples of milk in the district to be examined for adulteration and fat deficiency. Of these 16 were genuine. The result of the other 10 samples and action taken is shown below.

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
1 formal milk	Deficient 13.8% solids-not-fat. The freezing point indicated the presence of 14.5% of extraneous water.	Prosecution. Vendor fined 15s. on each of the nine samples. Total £6.15s. and £12.12s. costs.
1 formal milk	Deficient 3.3% fat, 6.3% solids-not-fat. The freezing point indicated the presence of 6.8% of extraneous water.	
1 formal milk	Deficient 13.5% solids-not-fat. The freezing point indicated the presence of 12.8% of extraneous water.	

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
1 formal milk	Deficient 9.1% solids-not-fat. The freezing point indicated the presence of 11.7% of extraneous water.	Prosecution. Vendor fined £2 and 3 guineas costs
1 formal milk	Deficient 13.7% solids-not-fat. The freezing point indicated the presence of 12.8% of extraneous water.	
1 formal milk	Deficient 1.6% fat, 3.2% solids-not-fat. The freezing point indicated the presence of 8.2% of extraneous water.	
1 formal milk	Deficient 4.4% solids-not-fat. The freezing point indicated the presence of 4.6% of extraneous water.	
1 formal milk	Deficient 1.1% solids-not-fat. The freezing point indicated the presence of 4.6% of extraneous water.	
1 formal milk	Deficient of 10.9% solids-not-fat. The freezing point indicated the presence of 11.9% of extraneous water.	
1 formal milk	Deficient 7.7% solids-not-fat. The freezing point indicated the presence of 11.2% of extraneous water.	

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Inspections were made regularly of all premises where food was prepared, sold and stored.

The County Sampling Officer also took the following 3 samples of other foods for laboratory examination.

1 Treacle, 1 Extract of Malt, 1 Epsom Salts

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine.

MEAT

The wartime control and rationing of meat ceased from the 1st July, 1954, and the Centralisation of Slaughtering ended.

Of the four previous licensed slaughterhouses in Longridge only one application was received to commence private slaughtering.

After necessary alterations and improvements a licence was granted and inspections of all animals slaughtered on these premises have been carried out, altogether 37 cattle, 36 cows and 616 sheep were slaughtered and examined.

There were no whole carcasses condemned for tuberculosis but 11 cattle and 9 cows had parts condemned for this disease. Twelve cattle and 18 cows had parts condemned for diseases other than tuberculosis. One hundred and eighty one sheep had parts condemned for diseases other than tuberculosis.

All condemned meat was voluntarily surrendered and disposed of to a firm who were properly equipped to render the diseased meat safe and sterile before conversion to other uses than food.

No carcasses were found to be affected with cysticercus bovis.

A reciprocal arrangement has been made with Fulwood U.D.C. that inspections of animals should be carried out during holiday or other periods to ensure that all animals slaughtered at both local authorities' private slaughterhouses be examined.

Ice Cream

Six samples of ice cream were submitted to bacteriological tests and subsequently graded into the provisional grades for cleanliness.

The following table shows the results of these tests since their introduction in 1947 following the Ice Cream Heat Treatment Regulations.

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Grade 1	4	12	5	11	3	3	4
Grade 2	1	6	3	1	-	1	2
Grade 3	3	4	4	-	1	-	-
Grade 4	3	5	3	2	-	-	-
Totals	11	27	15	14	4	4	6

Grades 1 and 2 are regarded as satisfactory but grades 3 and 4 usually indicate some fault in the method of production. Attention is drawn to the increased purity of this product since 1948 as shown by the above figures.

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Mr. E.C. Oakes, M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.W.E., Engineer and Manager to the Preston County Borough Council for providing the following information.

The water supply to Longridge is controlled by the Preston Corporation Water Department and is an upland surface water collected from the Longridge Fell. It is of good quality and there was no restriction upon the use of water during 1954, there being a full and continuous supply to all consumers.

The average quantity of water supplied to each individual consumer in Longridge was :-

	Gallons per Annum	Gallons per Day
Domestic and Public Uses	12,352	33.84
Industrial and Trade Requirements...	9,928	27.20
Totals	<u>22,280</u>	<u>61.04</u>

The Laboratory for the Waterworks is situated at Longridge where week by week checks are made upon the chemical and bacteriological characteristics throughout the year.

In the case of water supplied to Longridge 18 bacteriological examinations and 4 chemical analyses were carried out, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

The following is a chemical analysis of a sample of water taken in the Longridge district

	<u>Parts per 1,000,000</u>
Total solid Residue (Dried at 180°C)	80.0
Oxygen required to oxydise (in 15 mins.)	0.07
(in 3 hrs.)	0.13
Ammonia - Free and Saline	0.006
Ammonia - Albuminoid	0.028
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.10
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil
Chlorides	12.0
Temporary Hardness	Nil
Permanent Hardness	42.0
Total Hardness	42.0
pH Value	7.3

Physical Properties Colour 6 Hazen Clear and odourless.

Remarks: The quality of this water is satisfactory.

The following is a bacteriological examination of water taken from a Longridge tap

Temp. of water at time of collection 65°F
Remarks pH 7.2 Colour 6 Hazen

Organisms growing on Yeastrel Agar, per 1 m.l. of Water

Cultivated for 3 days at 20° - 22° C	7
Cultivated for 2 days at 37° C	1

Coli-Aerogenes Bacteria

Found in 0 m.l.

Not found in 100 m.l.

McCraedy - No. per 100 m.l. 0

Sub-cultured to 44°C : Positive faecal B. Coli 0
Organisms of the I.A.C. Group 0

The results are satisfactory.

Supplies to Houses.

There were 25 houses newly connected during the year, 23 of these being new houses built for the Local Authority and 2 for private ownership.

At the end of the year the number of dwelling houses connected to the public mains were 1,385 serving an estimated population of 4,364. There are no houses in the district served by means of a standpipe.

General

The water has no liability to plumbo-solvency and the analyses show no contamination occurred during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

A new trunk sewer is at the present time being constructed at a cost of £14,398 to relieve flooding in Mersey Street and the northerly end of Preston Road.

The proposed Joint Sewage Scheme with Preston County Borough, Fulwood Urban District and Preston Rural District is now approved in principle and work will be commenced in the near future

Once the scheme is in operation no treatment of sewage will be carried out at our present works.

Sanitary Accommodation.

The following comparative table shows the position for dwelling houses.

Type of Accommodation	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Freshwater closets	1132	1203	1274	1293	1303	1367	1388
Waste water closets	306	281	242	232	212	199	180
Pail closets	84	80	80	80	77	77	77
Privy	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Baths	546	582	610	634	642	677	702

PRIVATE STREETS AND BACK PASSAGES.

No private street works were carried out in 1954.

SCHOOLS.

The total number of schools in the District remains at five and is as follows:-

County Primary and Junior School	Chapel Street.
Senior C. of E. School	Berry Lane
Junior C. of E. School	Berry Lane.
St. Wilfrid's R.C. School	St. Wilfred's Terrace.
St. Michael's and All Angels School	Preston Road.

There is every indication that the local representatives on the Divisional Education Committee are fully alive to the need for still more schools.

HOUSING

The following table shows the number of new houses completed during the year.

	<u>Prefabricated</u>		Traditional Permanent Houses	Flats
	Temporary	Permanent		
By the Local Authority	Nil	Nil	23	Nil
By other Local Authorities	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other bodies or persons	Nil	Nil	2	Nil

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :-
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected ^{or informally} formally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 136
 - (b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose 210
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932. -
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. -
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 1
 - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 18
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action taken by the local authority or their officers. 25
3. Action under statutory powers during the year :-
 - (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs. Nil
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which, after service of formal notices, were rendered fit.
 - (a) By owners Nil
 - (b) By local authority in default of owners Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 1 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :- | |
| (a) By owners | 1 |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners | Nil |

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Order were made | 1 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings "not to occupy" were accepted by the local authority | Nil |

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses, separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) Number of Closing Orders which were determined, the premises having been rendered fit | Nil |

(e) Proceedings under section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of clearance areas represented | Nil |
| (2) Number of houses concerned in (1) | Nil |
| (3) Number of areas cleared | Nil |
| (4) Number of houses concerned in (3) | Nil |
| (5) Number of residents displaced in (3) and (4) | Nil |
| (6) Number of houses built by local authority to re-house residents displaced under Clearance Orders | Nil |

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding :-

- | | |
|--|----|
| (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 1 |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein | 3 |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein | 11 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 1 |
| (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 1 |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases | 14 |

The following tables show the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, within the district.

Type of Factory	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Non-Mechanical	9	7	-	-
Mechanical	31	39	-	-
Building Sites	4	11	-	-
Total	44	57	-	-

	Defects		Cases referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness	5	5	-	-	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Inadequate Ventilation	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Sanitary Conven. (a) Insufficient	3	2	-	-	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	4	-	-	Nil
(c) Not separate sexes	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Total	14	11	-	-	Nil

New Legislation

The acts, orders and regulations controlling many aspects of public health work are constantly changing and the following list, whilst not exhaustive, shows some of the relevant new legislation which came into operation during the year under review.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Slaughterhouses Act, 1954.

Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954.

Food & Drugs Amendment Act, 1954 (Date appointed by Minister)

Town & Country Planning Act, 1954 (1st January, 1955)

Landlord & Tenant Act, 1954.

Pests Act, 1954.

Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1954.

Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (No. 2) Regulations, 1954.

Food Standards (Soft Drinks) (Amendment) Order, 1954.

Public Health (Aircraft) (Amendment) Regulations, 1954.

Public Health (Ships) (Amendment) Regulations, 1954.

Puerperal Pyrexia (Amendment) Regulations, 1954.

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Regulations, 1954.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) (Amendment) Regulations, 1954.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations, 1954.

Housing (Declaration of Unfitness) Regulations, 1954.

Housing (Forms of Orders & Notices) (Amendment) Regulations, 1954.

Housing Repairs & Rents (Rent Tribunal) Regulations, 1954.

Housing Repairs (Increase of Rent) Regulations, 1954.

Rent Restrictions Regulations, 1954.

Health Department,
Berry Lane,
Longridge.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report
----- for the year 1953 -----

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council
of the Longridge Urban District.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in again submitting the following report on the enviromental work of the Health Department.

This year has seen the resumption of private slaughtering in the district and though only one application has been received it has increased the work by the number of visits to be made to the slaughterhouse. The work of improvement to the premises has been carried out, though more could be done to improve the buildings further. The standard of the slaughterhouses in the district must have been rather low, and the cost of bringing some of the other slaughterhouses previously licensed up to date would have been prohibitive.

There are still in the district 180 waste water closets, these because of their obsolete design are a source of danger to health and though 19 conversions were carried out during the year, the number remaining is still too large.

The £10 grant towards the cost of conversion has not attracted as many owners and if a better rate of the numbers converted does not improve, perhaps other methods may have to be resorted to.

The number of houses in a serious state of disrepair is not high in the district having regard to the age of the majority of the houses, but it does appear that the future policy will be that all houses which fall below a certain standard will form part of a slum clearance programme either collectively or individually.

Details of Inspections

Visits to premises during the year totalled 1,242 and are detailed below.

There was generally good co-operation in getting nuisances abated and improvements were carried out in many cases following advice given on matters such as drainage, housing problems and work to food preparation premises.

Bakehouses, Butchers and Greengrocers Shops,	127
Drainage	177
Factories	57
Food Inspections	58
Farms, Dairies and Milkshops	50
Inspections under Housing Acts.	29
Ice Cream Premises	15
Infectious Diseases	10
Infectious Disease Fumigations	3
Inspections under the Public Health Acts	229
Licensed Premises	13
Moveable Dwellings	31
Refuse Collections and Disposals	108
Rodent Control	96
Schools	22
Shops	78
Slaughterhouses	118
Smoke observations	21

Housing

Local Authorities have now received the direction by the Ministry to carry out the work of either demolition or improvement to properties but there does appear to be certain difficulties in the minds of owners of older properties as to whether their houses can be made fit so as to rank for the increase in rents and Local Authority Health Officers will probably meet problems that will be difficult to resolve.

Two applications for improvement grants under the Housing Act 1949 Part II have been dealt with.

No applications have been received for certificates of disrepair; owners have not yet apparently decided to take advantage of these powers of rent increases.

Two houses have been made fit under the Housing Acts following the acceptance of undertakings by the Local Authority as a result of Section 11 notices being served on the owner.

A Section 11 notice was served on an owner of a house which cannot be made fit and lacks all the essential services and demolition will be carried out.

Twenty five houses were repaired and rendered fit by informal action.

It was only necessary to serve one statutory notice under the Public Health Act, 1936, to get the necessary work done, and in no case was it necessary to take legal action.

Rodent Control

The policy of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has remained unchanged during the past few years. Consequently treatments of domestic premises are given a free service, commercial premises being charged for.

The amount of rodent infestation that has occurred has been very little, which proves the advantages of routine inspection and control. The use of modern poisons and methods also contribute to the successful elimination of rodents.

The test baiting carried out to the sewers have revealed very little infestation, in only a few cases has it been found necessary to treat some of the manholes.

The heavy rainfall during the year helped to keep the rodent population down in our sewers, due to the heavy surcharging that occurred.

Regular treatments carried out at the Sewage Works and Thornley Tip have been sufficient to successfully keep down infestations at these premises.

The Table below shows the work carried out for the 12 months ended 31st March, 1955.

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwell- ing House	Agricul- tural	All other (incl. Business Premises)	Total
Total number of properties	4	1404	61	337	1745
Number of inspections initial inspect/	4	178	28	77	283
Number of Rats Infested	2	5	3	1	11
Properties Mice	-	22	-	6	28
Number of treatments by Local Authorities	4	32	5	10	51

Drainage

All drainage work on new constructions, alterations and stoppages were inspected and good co-operation is maintained for the supervision of all work carried out.

Water testing is the method used to test the workmanship and it is generally found to be of a good standard.

A number of septic tanks have been cleaned out during the year on request by the owner. Those septic installations built prior to the war are generally not of good design and contribute to the pollution of some of the streams. Most of them lack a proper filter and consequently the effluent is only partially treated before being released into the nearest water course.

There are still some 77 pail closets in the district requiring a weekly service to empty them; all are situated at farms and the more rural parts of the district.

During the year 19 waste water closets have been converted to fresh water closets.

Infectious Diseases

Disinfection of the dwelling and contents are still carried out for infectious diseases such as scarlet fever and tuberculosis either on removal to hospital or following the recovery of home nursed cases.

Books are treated with formalin before being returned to the County Library Branch or the Private Library.

When requested beds and bedding are destroyed when a death has occurred in the family.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

From the 1st July, 1954, when private slaughtering commenced 73 cattle and 616 sheep were inspected and examined as to their fitness for human consumption.

The following are the details of the meat and offals which were found to be unfit for human consumption and surrendered by the butcher.

Tuberculosis

All cattle

9 heads
14 pairs of lungs
1 part of neck

Other diseases and conditionsCattle and Sheep

191 livers cirrhosis
 8 livers parasitical
 1 liver cysts
 4 livers abscesses
 2 mastitus

The weight of meat surrendered amounted to 1,127 lbs.

The following other foods were found to be unsound and unfit for human consumption and in each case voluntarily surrendered by the shopkeeper.

	lbs.	ozs.
2 Tins Pork and Beef Luncheon Meat	1	8
2 Tins Lambs Tongues	1	8
1 Tin Peas		10
1 Tin Strawberries	1	3
	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 13

MilkMilk Supply

The following are the details of registered distributors and actions taken with regard to the administration of the Milk and Dairies Act and Regulations.

No. of registered distributors operating from :-

1. Dairy farms in the district	2
2. Dairies in the district	Nil
3. Shops in the district other than dairies	Nil
4. Premises outside the district	6

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949 -

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1954 in respect of	"Tuberculin Tested Milk	6
	"Accredited" Milk	Nil

It was not found necessary to revoke or refuse to grant a licence during the year.

The above does not include producer retailers carrying on business in the district who are not required to be registered with the Local Authority.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.

Number of food premises registered, by type, under the above Acts.

Type of business	No. Registered at 31.12.54.	No. of inspections of registered premises during year
Preserved Foods	4	30
Hawkers	1	6
Ice Cream	18	32

Number of food premises, by type of business, in district, at end of year.

Grocers	16	Fried Fish Shops	3
Greengrocers	5	Sweet, Minerals & Ice Cream	15
Meat Shops	7	Catering establishments	22
Bakers and Confectioners	6	Others	1

PUBLIC CLEANSINGHouse and Trade Refuse Collection and Disposal

Collection. Owing to the very bad weather suffered by the staff, there was an increase in absenteeism due to sickness. Consequently it was very difficult to keep to schedule and maintain the weekly collection service.

The staff worked well under the very inclement weather conditions and it was not uncommon to find they had been wet through three or four times in the same day.

The increase in the number of inhabited dwellings with the more open type of development is taxing the running schedule, it is obvious that in the near future some additional labour will be needed to meet the expansion of the district. Houses built a distance from the road increase the carry of the dustbins and cut down the number of houses that can be served in a given time.

Disposal. The Thornley Tile Kiln tip continues to be used for tipping, by the controlled tip method though the final covering of soil is becoming a greater problem, good soil is expensive to obtain and in short supply and though a lot of free soil has been obtained the Council may be presented with the expense of having to purchase soil for a final covering.

No problems arose due to serious infestations of rodents or insect breeding. The poor weather acted as a deterrent in insect breeding together with the periodical treatments of insecticides used on the tip and in the bins.

Salvage. The weight of the paper salvage collected during the year shows a decrease of approximately 8 tons, this was not due to a dropping of the yearly collection, but to the previous years' collection including 10 tons stored from the year before when the Board Mills were not taking the full amount collected.

Every effort is being used to encourage housewives and others to save their salvage.

The figures of 31 cwts per 1,000 population per month is still much higher than the national average which is approximately 12 cwts per 1,000.

The price of paper paid by the Thames Board Mills has remained fairly stationary, mixed paper has increased one pound per ton over the year, the other grades remaining at the same price.

Weight of Salvage Collected and Sold.

	1953/54				1954/55			
	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs
Mixed paper	39	11	1	0	32	6	1	0
Books and Magazines	10	17	0	0	11	2	3	0
Newspapers	17	3	2	0	17	5	0	0
Fibreboard	22	16	1	0	21	14	2	0
Ferrous Metal	4	1	1	0	3	9	0	0
Non-Ferrous Metal		2	2	13			2	2
Textiles	1	17	1	25	1	16	3	2
	96	9	1	10	87	14	3	4

Value of Salvage sold

	1953/54			1954/55		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
Mixed paper	234	11	3	219	15	9
Books and magazines	92	4	9	94	13	6
Newspapers	168	19	9	163	17	10
Fibreboard	197	6	9	195	10	6
Ferrous Metal	12	2	6	11	14	6
Non-Ferrous Metal	14	6	7	4	0	1
Textiles	57	2	8	56	13	0
	776	14	3	746	5	2

The table below gives the yeild of waste paper per 1,000 of population over the past nine years.

Weight per 1,000 population per month	
	Cwts
1946	10.1
1947	15.8
1948	25.0
1949	23.0
1950	28.5
1951	27.5
1952	24.2
1953	34.0
1954	31.0

The following is a summary of the Collection and Disposal of Refuse and Salvage during the financial year ending 31st March, 1955 together with figures for the preceeding financial year ended 31st March 1954 and other figures of yeild and disposal for comparison.

Estimated weight of Refuse and Salvage
Collected

	1953/54			1954/55		
	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.
House and Trade Refuse	904	8	0	848	0	0
Salvage	96	9	1	87	14	3
	1000	17	1	935	14	3

Cost of Collection and Disposal

	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
	£	£	£
Refuse Collection	1,005	1,137	1,237
Motor Transport	517	752	735
Tip Maintenance etc.	243	150	144
Salvage Baling			
Bonuses	468	277	453
	2,236	2,316	2,569
Less Income:-			
Trade Refuse	10	17	6
Salvage Sales	711	777	845
	1,515	1,522	1,714

Gross Income from Salvage for the past 10 years.

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	£	s	d
1945	26	9	1	0	173	4	1
1946	23	16	0	0	155	16	11
1947	40	2	0	0	278	6	8
1948	64	4	1	0	553	3	6
1949	68	11	1	0	543	3	6
1950	81	8	2	0	749	7	4
1951	80	0	2	0	1,474	5	1
1952	74	19	0	14	710	1	0
1953	96	9	1	10	776	14	3
1954	87	14	3	4	746	5	2
Total	643	15	0	0	6,160	7	6

CONCLUSION

May I tender my thanks and appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their interest and support.

My thanks are also due to my fellow officers and staff for their co-operation, and I express my appreciation to Dr. Walker for his guidance and support.

-----oooOooo-----

I am, Mr. Chairman Mrs. Smith
& Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

V.N. PAGE

Sanitary Inspector.

